

## ABSTRACT

An electric steering lock (100) capable of outputting a signal correctly indicating an operation state of a steering lock mechanism (8) even when the operation voltage of a lock detector (20, 21) decreases.

5       The electric steering lock includes a CPU (19), a signal hold circuit (22), and an OR circuit (23). When the steering lock mechanism (8) unlocks a steering wheel (16), an unlock sensor provides an H level detection signal ( $S_{UL}$ ) to the CPU and the signal hold circuit. In response to the detection signal, the CPU issues a state hold command to the signal hold circuit. In response to the state hold command, the signal hold circuit

10      generates an H level hold signal in correspondence with the detection signal. The OR circuit provides an H level signal ( $S_a$ ) to an immobilizer ECU (7) when at least one of the detection signal from the unlock sensor or the hold signal has an H level.

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